

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 06893 140006Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-01 AID-05 EB-08 ICA-11 COME-00
TRSE-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 OIC-02
L-03 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01
SP-02 /125 W

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R 131646Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2084
INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY OSLO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 6893

PARIS FOR OECD

PASS USDA AND AID

FODAG

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: AORG, WFC
SUBJECT: APPOINTMENT OF WORRLD FOOD COUNCIL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

REF: (A) STATE 88245 (NOTAL), (B) STATE 87000 (NOTAL)

1. MISSION OFFICER HAD TWO SEPARATE TALKS WITH GROUP OF 77 REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FAO ON APPOINTMENT OF WFC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.

2. HAQUE, BANGLADESH REP, IS PUSHING HARD HIS MAN SALAHUDDIN AHMED. ALL OTHER G-77 CANDIDATES HAVE DROPPED OUT OF RUNNING, SO AHMED IS ONLY ONE LEFT IN FIELD. HAQUE PRESSED HARD ON
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PRINCIPAL OF ROTATION AND, THEREFORE, IT WAS G-77 TURN. HE REFERRED TO ROME G-77 RESOLUTION PRESSING ROTATION AND APPOINTMENT OF SOMEONE FROM G-77 COUNTRY. HE UNDERSTOOD THAT N.Y. G-77 WOULD ALSO PRESS RESOLUTION.

3. HAQUE THEN SAID HE HAD TALKED TO NORWEGIANS WHO TOLD HIM THEY WOULD NOT PRESS AASLAND AGAINST A G-77 CANDIDATE, BUT

WOULD FIGHT TO FINISH AGAINST ANOTHER DEVELOPED COUNTRY
CANDIDATE.

4. HAQUE SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD FAO DG WAS IN FAVOR OF A
G-77 CANDIDATE. WALDHEIM WAS IMPRESSED BY KEARNS. MISSION
OFFICER COUNTERED BY STATING THAT HE UNDERSTOOD TANCO WAS
IN SUPPORT OF WILLIAMS. FURTHER, MISSION OFFICER DID NOT
SEE HOW WFC COULD HAVE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FROM
G-77, MUCH LESS FROM SAME REGION.

5. BRITO (BRAZIL) TOOK AN ANTI-AHMED LINE. IN HIS OPINION,
AHMED DID NOT HAVE NECESSARY ORIGINALITY. BRITO SAID IT
WOULD BE BAD TO HAVE G-77 PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.
HE CONFIRMED THAT LATIN AMERICAN CANDIDATES HAD DISAPPEARED.

6. BRITO NOTED THAT LA REPS AND AFRICAN REPS WERE SILENTLY
AGAINST BANGLADESH CANDIDACY, BUT WOULD NOT EXPRESS OPPOSITION
TO G-77 CANDIDATE. THIS, BANGLADESH PRESSURE, AND INCOMPETENT
ROME G-77 CHAIRMAN, SAYED KHALIL, COMBINED TO PUT RESOLUTION
THROUGH IN SUPPORT OF G-77 CANDIDATE. BRITO COUNSELED THAT
BEST TACTIC WAS TO KEEP DECISION OPEN WITHOUT PUSHING A CON-
FRONTATION. BANGLADESH HAD LITTLE SUPPORT EXCEPT ON LINES OF
NEED FOR G-77 UNITY.

7. COMMENT: FROM ROME IT WOULD SEEM THAT WHILE SYG IS KEY TO
DECISION ON WFC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, TANCO IS IMPORTANT FACTOR.
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HE HAS BEEN REELECTED AND NOW MUST PAY MORE ATTENTION TO WFC.
HIS STRONG SUPPORT IS CRUCIAL TO WILLIAMS'
CANDIDACY. POSITIVE MEXICAN SUPPORT WOULD ALSO HELP. GARDNER

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